



Join Us for Free, Fun, Programs!

Parker River National Wildlife Refuge

March, 2014

REGISTRATION

All refuge run programs are FREE but space may be limited and advanced registration is required for all programs, unless otherwise indicated. Please call (978) 465-5753. Registration is not complete until you receive confirmation from a staff member. Please note that outdoor programs may be cancelled if there is inclement weather and also insufficient registration. Visit us on the web for more information: http://www.fws.gov/refuge/parker_river/ or call Refuge Headquarters. The refuge visitor center is located at 6 Plum Island Turnpike, Newburyport, MA. **Please note: If a program requires pre-registration, your registration is not confirmed unless and until you receive a phone call or voice mail message from a member of the refuge staff.**

“Up Close and Personal” Refuge Tour

Held on the following days: Saturday, March 8 @9:30 am; Sunday, March 9th @1:00 pm; Monday, March 10th @9:30 am; Friday, March 14th @9:30 am; Saturday, March 15th @9:30 am; Sunday, March 16th @1:00 pm; Friday, March 21st @1:00 pm; Sunday, March 23rd @ 1:00 pm; Monday, March 24th @ 9:30 am; Sunday, March 30th @1:00 pm

Join a refuge ranger for an “up close and personal” tour of the Parker River National Wildlife Refuge. The tour will be conducted via refuge van, with several brief “drive by” stops along the way. The tour will provide an “insider’s” perspective of the refuge through the multiple lenses of the cultural history of Plum Island and the Great Marsh, native wildlife and their habitats, and the role of refuge management in the conservation of these precious natural resources. This guided two hour program is most appropriate for older teens and adults. Binoculars and/or a camera are recommended, but not required. Meet the ranger in the lobby of the Refuge visitor center 15 minutes prior to the program start time. Each session is limited to 10 participants; no more than 4 individuals per sign-up. Again, this is a vehicle-based tour, with limited stops on the Refuge.

Advance registration is required for this program, as enrollment is limited. Be advised that individual tours may be subject to cancellation. *Please note: Those who call and leave messages after hours, your registration is not confirmed until you receive a confirmation call from a Refuge staff member. Please call (978) 465-5753; to register for this program.

The Photographic Society of Parker River National Wildlife Refuge

Next Meeting: Saturday, March 8th at 1:30 pm in the visitor center auditorium

Attend our next Photo Society meeting and witness the spectacular wildlife images of wildlife photographer Peter Christoph. Here are the specific details of Peter’s planned program:

In *Snowy Owls and More – the Epic Adventures of a Massachusetts Bird Photographer*, Peter Christoph presents a narrated slideshow of his favorite bird photographs, all taken right here in Massachusetts, where he lives. His program is both entertaining and informative as he shares stories of his photographic adventures and the techniques he uses to capture his subjects. He’ll also

share the locations of some of his favorite places where he goes to take photos of birds in their natural habitat.

The Photographic Society welcomes anyone who has an interest in nature, wildlife, and/or photography – whether you are a total novice or earn a living by taking pictures! The club meets every month, generally on the second Saturday afternoon. Club activities include special presentations, slide shows (of members' work), intra-club mentoring and training, photo shoots, on-line photo sharing, and involvement in the refuge's various photography-related programs, events, and outreach activities. **Preregistration is NOT required to attend this program.** Please call (978) 465-5753 for more information about the Photographic Society.

Making Tracks: Learning to Read Wildlife Clues

Saturday, March 22nd, 10:00 – 11:30 am

If you have ever seen tracks in the snow, sand, or soil and were curious about what made them, then this is the program for you! Refuge staff will lead you through the basics of identifying common animals through the clues that they leave behind. A brief introduction to animal tracks and sign in the visitor contact station will be followed by time spent outdoors on the Refuge where we will look for tracks and attempt to determine their owner's identity. This is a program for beginners, so parents are encouraged to bring their children 10 and older. Please dress appropriately for cold and damp weather. Meet the ranger at the visitor contact station (located on the Refuge at Lot 1) ten minutes prior to the program start time. **Preregistration is required as the program is limited to 10 participants.**